

# REMARKABLE MEETING GIVES IMPETUS TO STANLEY'S CAMPAIGN

## Second District Congressman Addresses Vast Crowd of Supporters That Throngs Theater

July 6, 1914—What was without a doubt one of the most remarkable political meetings ever held in Louisville was held last night when Congressman A. G. Stanley, of the Second district, candidate for the Democratic nomination for United States Senator, presented his claims to the voters of the Fifth district at the National Theater.

The meeting was remarkable in that it was a distinct innovation, being probably the first time in the history of Louisville that a candidate for a Democratic State-wide nomination addressed a meeting of voters here, and secondly, it was remarkable for the manner in which packed the theater auditoriums, stage and a large part of the galleries. The crowd, which was estimated at 2,000, was considered one of the most representative groups that ever faced a speaker in Louisville, and many persons left the theater from the time Mr. Stanley began until he closed his speech, which required an hour and a half. Many who remained faced the boxes, and they showed the keenest interest in what the speaker had to say.

### Scathing Denunciation.

Workman shafts and rapier thrusts

Mr. Stanley sent after his opponent Gov. W. H. Beckham and his aides, Peckover and Sam F. Shackelford, but he reached the climax in his denunciation of Richard W. Knott, editor of *Standard* and *Evening Post*, as a political assassin and traitor, who exerted a dominating influence politically, socially and morally, and "whose

reputation as a West as a badge of infamy of boasting denunciation to the nation was levelled in Louisville and the stadium roared its approval as he fired every shaft home. Mr. Stanley pelted Beckham for his alliance with Knott, whom he characterized as "moving cunctioneer" and "moving cunctioneer," "This is the vile sheet," said he, "that has the insufferable impudence to dictate to the Democrats of Kentucky, if you, shall choose as their spokesman."

### Where Does He Stand?

Challenged with cowardice and treachery question and ploughing by Lyell and Mr. Hyde, Stanley said: "As far as the exigencies of the situation demanded, Mr. Stanley arranged that Beckham come out to speak and declare to the people of Kentucky whether or not he favored national prohibition or State-wide prohibition, or both."

Mr. Stanley was greeted with a rousing ovation when he entered the theater and the demonstration lasted approximately half an hour, interrupted only before he was permitted to speak.

### Introduced By Judge Edwards.

The meeting was presided over by Judge James P. Edwards, who introduced Mr. Stanley. "This splendid audience shows the handwriting on the wall," was Judge Edwards' opening sentence. He congratulated the Democratic party on its splendid administration of national and State affairs, and its ability to do things under the watchful leadership of a Woodrow Wilson. He congratulated the Democratic party of Kentucky on having such a candidate for United States Senator as Augustus Owlesley Stanley, who stands for every principle advocated by President Wilson and the National Democratic platform. Judge Edwards referred to the era of "machine rule" that was the chief characteristic of the Beckham regime, and he paid his respects to Beckham, whose chief mouthpiece now was the "traitorous Courier-Journal."

### Full Text of Stanley's Speech.

Mr. Stanley's speech, which will well bear perusal, is in full as follows:

"You are assembled here on the eve of the exercise of a priceless privilege," began Mr. Stanley. "Vested with absolute and sovereign power, you sit in judgment upon the fitness of your public servants at high tribunal, from whose decision there is no appeal. Learned judges, members of Congress, who aspire to posts of honor or distinction, must come to you like blind beggar with a cap."

"This is the only rule, and you are the only people where such a measure of liberty was ever enjoyed by the citizenry. It was a race of 1,400 years, and more, of Christian and pagan civilization, men aspired, without protest, the most strenuous political heresy that one man was born to be a king and another destined from his birth to be a vassal or a slave. That all power and all authority, liberty itself, is enjoyed by the grace of some royal grant came trick-

ling down from the fated steps of a throne upon a suppliant people below, it remained to the greatest man men that was born of woman to turn his back upon the fallacies of the dead past and his face toward the future, and with the audacity of genius, to declare that all men were created free and equal, with an equal right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. He took a mere man, because he was a man, just as God made him, with regard to his worth, his learning or his lineage, and made him the source of all power and all authority, clothed him with sacred and inalienable rights, armed him with a sword and made him an uncrowned king, and before this towering creation of the mighty American the thrones of the world disappeared. I reverently thank God to-night that He who made us sovereigns all the unifiers of the Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson.

All that Jefferson and I that the wisdom and the courage of the fathers could do to invest us with this supreme power! It remains for the people, and the people alone, to exercise it. Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty. No constitution, however perfect, no government, however flawless, can ever, or will ever, protect and preserve the liberties of a people who are not ceaselessly vigilant in the exercise of the power inherent in them."

### Freedom of Kentucky.

"We loudly proclaim this a Government of and for and by the people. Is it such a Government here in Kentucky at this hour? Do the people of Kentucky exercise the actual control of their own affairs?"

The mere right to elect your officials, if it stops there, is not sufficient to constitute you a free people, or this a free Government.

"The Roman Emperors were all elected. Tiberius, Caracalla or Nero could not have been more monstrous had they inherited the purple to which they were elected.

"To be free a people must do something more than elect officials. Those officials must, when elected, act through and for the people, whose servants they are."

For that reason the members of the Legislature and of Congress are called representatives. They should be in very deed the willing and responsive medium through whom a sovereign people exercise their inherent authority.

"Now, what have you to do with the writing of the law which governs you? That law you must obey; violate the State or Federal statutes and you lose your liberty, your property or your life. What have you to do with the writing of those rules of conduct that touch you so nearly, and upon which your liberty, your life and your property depend?"

A Legislature has but recently adjourned in the city of Frankfort. Had any citizen here appeared in the galleries of that body and objected to the passage of any bill then pending, he would have been ordered out of the House. Had he interrupted when the Federal Congress was considering some measure, he would probably have landed in jail.

"If the citizen has no voice in the actual writing of the law, what part, after all, has he in this so-called free government? He can participate in its operation in one way only, that is by having him who proposes to write or to execute the law to take the people into his confidence, tell them in advance candidly and courageously his position upon all public questions, and let them know exactly what he proposes to do, if intrusted with the high honors and stern obligations of a legislator.

"If the electors approve of his policies, if they desire to have him do the things which he proposes, then they commission him as their agent, their attorney, in fact, their actual representative, to write the laws for them. There, as a Senator from Kentucky, he writes with the hand of 200,000 Democrats; he speaks with the voice of 3,000,000 people."

### Outside Interference.

"Here in Kentucky is the law written in obedience to your will, by men responsible to you alone. For weeks before the last Legislature assembled it was boldly proclaimed that private citizens, having no official relation to the Kentucky Legislature whatever, nor members of that body, or intrusted by the law with the power to interfere with its deliberations—that a few private citizens would organize and control it, would suggest the men whom that body should elect as presiding officers, command it to the minutest detail, even to the selection of pages and cloakroom keepers; would sit in its secret caucuses and determine the policies of the party and the conduct of the lawmakers of a free people."

"The Governor of the State, upon whom the Constitution imposes the

### A DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD

duty of advising this body, comes with the right to veto measures which, in his opinion, were inexpedient and unconstitutional, with whom it was expected to act in concert, for the success of the party and the good of the country, depends upon harmony between the executive and the legislative branches of the government, that Governor's will was openly flaunted and those very men who exercised it never did any harm to constitute the private citizens who had organized and controlled the legislature. Calm & cool come between that body and the people whose will they are supposed to express and obey, the people will be mocked, a delusion and a sham."

"Whenever it appears that the Legislature of a Congress can be organized and rendered subservient to the will of a clique of gamblers, of designing lobbyists and political speculators of the people who are put by them and their associates," said he, "mockery, a delusion and a sham."

"It is only by breaking this bond of concord and necessary concern between the public and the public servants that the powers of government can be converted to the plunder of a free people and the vile use of avatars and designing men."

### Sinister Control.

"This is the essence of that abominable thing known as invisible government. It was this secret and hidden control of the people's representatives and the people's government that furnished an effete Republicanism from power and that will bury it in decay. A great jurist and a statesman met the expectation of all when Mr. Beckham and the Evening Post and *Standard* Dick Knott, ever received into Democratic fellowship or affiliated with the ugly atmosphere of unblushing under the countenance of Democracy. Who else could stand as political godfather, philosopher, guide and friend, self-consciously honest and purgatorial for any political transmogrification? Richard W. Knott, and the Evening Post, and when the *Standard* Dick Knott, ever received into Democratic fellowship or affiliated with the ugly atmosphere of unblushing under the countenance of Democracy. 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